Wild Maine Blueberry Lavender Jam

Wild Maine Blueberries are the featured ingredient for May's Harvest of the Month. This is a fun recipe to make at home and features a unique ingredient easily found at health or specialty food stores: lavender! This jam can be stored in the refrigerator, or canned with the help of a knowledgeable adult.

Yield: 8 half-pint jars

Ingredients:

- 2 Tb dried lavender buds
- 8 C frozen Wild Maine blueberries
- 4 1/2 C granulated sugar
- 2 Tb lemon juice
- One (1.75 ounce) package powdered pectin, such as Sure Jell

Directions:

- 1. Put the lavender buds in a small bowl and pour 1/2 cup of boiling water over them.
- 2.Let them steep for 10 minutes, then strain the "tea" into a bowl and discard the buds.
- 3. Combine sugar and powdered pectin in another bowl.
- 4. Whisk together to thoroughly combine.
- 5. Combine blueberries, lemon juice, and lavender tea in a pot.
- 6. Bring to a boil and cook until berries start to look slightly shriveled, like raisins.
- 7. Stir in sugar-pectin mixture.
- 8. Bring to a boil over high heat, stirring constantly.
- 9.Boil for one minute... no less! If the mixture does not boil for at least one minute, the pectin will not activate and your jam will not gel.
- 10. Remove jam from heat and skim off any foam from surface.
- 11. Either pour in sterilized jars and can, or pour into airtight container and store in the refrigerator for up to three weeks.

